

President Trump's Budget: A Budget At Odds With His Promises to the American People

Today, President Trump released his budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2018. According to press reports, Trump's budget makes it clear that he is not fighting for working Americans and their families. Instead, it is a dishonest attempt to hide an agenda of tax cuts for the wealthy at the expense of working Americans.

Here is a look at how the President's budget breaks his promises to Americans:

PROMISE BROKEN: HELPING AMERICANS AND THEIR FAMILIES GET AHEAD

PROMISE: "The well-being of the American citizen and worker will be placed second to none – and boy do I mean second to none." [Remarks, [4/18/17](#)]

BROKEN: Trump's budget would drastically cut investments that help working Americans get ahead, such as education and job training. His budget would also gut anti-poverty programs that help Americans work their way into the middle class. In addition, his budget would target federal workers who support the well-being and defense of our nation.

- **Education and Work Study Programs:** "Funding for college work-study programs would be cut in half, public-service loan forgiveness would end and hundreds of millions of dollars that public schools could use for mental health, advanced coursework and other services would vanish under a Trump administration plan to cut \$10.6 billion from federal education initiatives... The spending proposal would maintain funding for Pell Grants for students in financial need, but it would eliminate more than \$700 million in Perkins loans for disadvantaged students; nearly halve the work-study program that helps students work their way through school, cutting \$490 million; take a first step toward ending subsidized loans, for which the government pays interest while the borrower is in school; and end loan forgiveness for public servants." [Washington Post, [5/17/17](#)]
- **Nutrition Assistance:** "President Trump's anticipated cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, better known as food stamps, will likely be felt most in regions of the country with chronic high rates of unemployment — from the rural Southeast to aging manufacturing towns to Indian reservations... Trump is expected to propose cutting as much as 25 percent of the program's funding over 10 years, which would go far beyond past House Republican proposals — and require far more than axing SNAP's unemployed adults." [Washington Post, [5/23/17](#)]
- **Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit:** "Spending on the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit would also be reduced by \$40 billion." [Bloomberg, [5/22/17](#)]
- **Federal employees:** "The budget proposal President Trump plans to unveil Tuesday would give to federal employees with one hand, while taking away with five others.... Trump's fiscal 2018 budget would: Increase Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) contributions... Base future retirement benefits on the average of the high five years of salary instead of the current high three. Eliminate cost of living adjustments (COLA) for current and future FERS employees. Cut the COLA for Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) employees... Eliminate supplement payments for FERS employees who retire beginning in 2018." [Washington Post, [5/18/17](#)]

PROMISE BROKEN: NO CUTS TO MEDICAID OR SOCIAL SECURITY

PROMISE: "I was the first & only potential GOP candidate to state **there will be no cuts to Social Security, Medicare & Medicaid...**" [Tweet, [5/7/15](#)]

BROKEN: Trump's budget proposes drastic cuts to Social Security and Medicaid. His budget would cut Social Security Disability Insurance, and it would undermine coverage for millions of Americans – including vulnerable children, seniors in nursing homes, and Americans with disabilities – by cutting \$1.4 trillion from Medicaid over 10 years.

- “In total, the budget proposes cutting Medicaid spending by \$610 billion over 10 years. That's on top of more than \$800 billion in cuts called for under the House-passed ObamaCare repeal bill, the American Health Care Act.” [The Hill, [05/22/17](#)]
- “Trump's decision to include the Medicaid cuts is significant because it shows he is rejecting calls from a number of Senate Republicans not to reverse the expansion of Medicaid.” [Washington Post, [5/21/17](#)]
- “The president also strongly opposed cuts to Social Security during the campaign, but the new budget would make cuts to Social Security Disability Insurance, which covered over 10 million recipients as of December 2015.” [NBC News [5/23/17](#)]

PROMISE BROKEN: STRENGTHENING NATIONAL SECURITY

PROMISE: “We will make America safe again!” [Inauguration Speech, [1/20/17](#)]

BROKEN: Trump's budget slashes funding for the State Department, which undermines our security here at home and around the world.

- “In 2018, it would shift \$54 billion from nondefense discretionary spending to defense by enacting major cuts to the State Department, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture and other agencies.” [The Hill, [5/22/17](#)]

PROMISE BROKEN: MAKING MEXICO PAY FOR THE BORDER WALL

PROMISE: “Mexico will pay for the wall!” [Tweet, [9/1/16](#)]

BROKEN: Trump's budget includes taxpayer funding for his border wall.

Republicans in both chambers are already slamming Trump's budget, making it clear the budget is dead upon arrival:

Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID): “Like I want to go home after having voting [sic] against Meals on Wheels and say, 'Oh it's a bad program, keeping seniors alive.' There's just some of the stuff in here that doesn't make any sense. ... **Frankly, you can't pass these budgets on the floor.**” [Politico, [5/20/17](#)]

Rep. Hal Rogers (R-KY): “I'm deeply concerned about the severity of the domestic cuts... We'll see how that changes.” [Politico, [5/20/17](#)]

Rep. Mike Conaway (R-TX), chairman of the House Agriculture Committee: “We think it's wrongheaded... Production agriculture is in the worst slump since the depression — 50 percent drop in the net income for producers. They need this safety net...” [Associated Press, [5/21/17](#)]

Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA): “I've often said, the budget around here is an exercise in confederate money. **It's not real.**” [Politico, [5/20/17](#)]

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, (R-AK): “I think they heard a pretty strong signal after the skinny budget, not only from myself but others, weighing in pretty heavily that some of these programs are important, and if you perhaps don't understand why they are important, let me share with you why they are...” [Inside Climate News, [5/20/17](#)]